**Amendments to the Claims:**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claim 1 (currently amended): An apparatus for suppressing limit cycles during noise conversion, comprising:

a filter block for noise conversion, said filter block for obtaining an input signal, said filter block for providing a signal;

an adder having a first input and a second input, said first input of said adder obtaining the signal from said filter block[[,]] and said second input of said adder obtaining a feedback signal, said adder for providing an output signal;

a divider stage for converting the output signal from said adder into a digital signal including n bits and into an error signal; and

a feedback block for generating the feedback signal from the error signal, said feedback block including a sign converter for determining a positive value of the error signal and a time delay element.

Claim 2 (original): The apparatus according to claim 1, wherein said filter block is designed as a two-stage noise shaping filter or as a three-stage noise shaping filter.

Claim 3 (canceled)

Claim 4 (currently amended): ~~The apparatus according to claim 1, wherein:~~ An apparatus for suppressing limit cycles during noise conversion, comprising:

a filter block for noise conversion, said filter block for obtaining an input signal, said filter block for providing a signal;

an adder having a first input and a second input, said first input of said adder obtaining the signal from said filter block and said second input of said adder obtaining a feedback signal, said adder for providing an output signal;

a divider stage for converting the output signal from said adder into a digital signal including n bits and into an error signal;

a feedback block for generating the feedback signal from the error signal;

said feedback block ~~includes~~ including a sign converter for determining a positive value of the error signal; and

said feedback block ~~includes~~ further including a filter element having a transfer function $\frac{1}{z+\alpha}$, where $\alpha = 2^{-s}$, and s is a natural number.

Claim 5 (currently amended): ~~The apparatus according to claim 1, wherein.~~An apparatus for suppressing limit cycles during noise conversion, comprising:

a filter block for noise conversion, said filter block for obtaining an input signal, said filter block for providing a signal;

an adder having a first input and a second input, said first input of said adder obtaining the signal from said filter block and said second input of said adder obtaining a feedback signal, said adder for providing an output signal;

a divider stage for converting the output signal from said adder into a digital signal including n bits and into an error signal;

a feedback block for generating the feedback signal from the error signal

said filter block is a digital filter; and

said adder, said divider stage and said feedback block are implemented as digital signal processing stages.

Claim 6 (original): The apparatus according to claim 5, wherein said divider stage provides the error signal as a digital error signal including m bits.

Claim 7 (original): The apparatus according to claim 5, wherein said feedback block includes a sign converter for determining a magnitude of the error signal.

Claim 8 (original): The apparatus according to claim 5, wherein said feedback block includes a sign converter for determining a two's complement of the error signal.

Claim 9 (original): The apparatus according to claim 5, wherein:

said feedback block includes a filter element having a transfer function $\frac{1}{z+\alpha}$, where $\alpha = 2^{-s}$, and s is a natural number;

said filter element is implemented by a time delay element providing an output signal, said time delay element obtains an input signal; and

the output signal of said time delay element, shifted to the right by s bit positions, is subtracted from the input signal of said time delay element.

Claim 10 (original): The apparatus according to claim 5, wherein when said feedback block generates the feedback signal using a calculation with an accuracy that is increased by at least one additional less significant bit.

Claim 11 (original): The apparatus according to claim 5, wherein said filter block, said adder, said divider stage, and said feedback block are implemented with a digital signal processor.

Claim 12 (original): The apparatus according to claim 5, wherein said filter block, said adder, said divider stage, and

said feedback block are implemented as a hardware circuit configuration.

Claim 13 (original): The apparatus according to claim 5, wherein the input signal provided to said filter block is a digitized audio signal being processed in a mobile radio receiver.

Claim 14 (original): The apparatus according to claim 1, wherein:

said filter block is an analog filter; and

said adder and said feedback block are implemented as analog signal processing stages.

Claim 15 (original): The apparatus according to claim 14, wherein:

said divider stage includes an initial stage with an analog/digital converter for generating the digital signal including n bits.

Claim 16 (currently amended): ~~The apparatus according to claim 14, wherein:~~ An apparatus for suppressing limit cycles during noise conversion, comprising:

an analog filter block for noise conversion, said analog filter block for obtaining an input signal, said analog filter block for providing a signal;

an adder, implemented as an analog signal processing stage, having a first input and a second input, said first input of said adder obtaining the signal from said analog filter block and said second input of said adder obtaining a feedback signal, said adder for providing an output signal;

a divider stage for converting the output signal from said adder into a digital signal including n bits and into an error signal;

a feedback block, implemented as an analog signal processing stage, for generating the feedback signal from the error signal;

the digital signal of said divider stage is converted back into an analog signal;

the output signal of said adder is an analog output signal; and

the analog signal of said divider stage and the analog output signal of said adder are used to produce the error signal as an analog error signal.

Claim 17 (original): The apparatus according to claim 14, wherein said adder is implemented using an operational amplifier.

Claim 18 (currently amended): ~~The apparatus according to claim 14, wherein:~~ An apparatus for suppressing limit cycles during noise conversion, comprising:

an analog filter block for noise conversion, said analog filter block for obtaining an input signal, said analog filter block for providing a signal;

an adder, implemented as an analog signal processing stage, having a first input and a second input, said first input of said adder obtaining the signal from said analog filter block and said second input of said adder obtaining a feedback signal, said adder for providing an output signal;

a divider stage for converting the output signal from said adder into a digital signal including n bits and into an error signal;

a feedback block, implemented as an analog signal processing stage, for generating the feedback signal from the error signal;

said feedback block includes a sign converter for determining a positive value of the error signal; and

said sign converter is implemented using a rectifier.

Claim 19 (original): The apparatus according to claim 14, wherein said analog signal processing stages are implemented using switched capacitor technology.

Claim 20 (original): The apparatus according to claim 14, wherein the input signal provided to said filter block is obtained from an analog signal that will be digitally recorded.

Claim 21 (currently amended): A method for suppressing limit cycles during noise conversion, the method which comprises:

obtaining a resultant signal by using a filter block for noise conversion to filter an input signal;

obtaining an output signal by adding a feedback signal to the resultant signal of the filter block;

converting the output signal into a digital signal including n bits and into an error signal; and

generating the feedback signal starting from the error signal by determining a positive value of the error signal, and filtering the positive value of the error signal using a filter element having a filter characteristic $\frac{1}{z+\alpha}$, where $\alpha = 2^{-s}$, and s is a natural number.

Claim 22 (original): The method according to claim 21, which further comprises:

performing the step of generating the feedback signal by determining a positive value of the error signal and storing the positive value of the error signal in a time delay element.

Claim 23 (canceled)

Claim 24 (original): The method according to claim 21, which further comprises:

using digital processing stages to perform the steps of obtaining a resultant signal, obtaining an output signal, converting the output signal, and generating the feedback signal.

Claim 25 (original): The method according to claim 24, which further comprises:

converting the output signal, obtained by adding the feedback signal to the resultant signal of the filter block, into a digital signal including n bits and into a digital error signal including m bits.

Claim 26 (currently amended): ~~The method according to claim 24, which further comprises:~~ A method for suppressing limit cycles during noise conversion, the method which comprises:

obtaining a resultant signal by using a filter block for noise conversion to filter an input signal;

obtaining an output signal by adding a feedback signal to the resultant signal of the filter block;

converting the output signal into a digital signal including n bits and into an error signal;

generating the feedback signal starting from the error signal;

using digital processing stages to perform the steps of obtaining a resultant signal, obtaining an output signal, converting the output signal, and generating the feedback signal;

performing the step of generating the feedback signal by determining a positive value of the error signal, and filtering the positive value of the error signal using a filter element having a filter characteristic $\frac{1}{z+\alpha}$, where $\alpha = 2^{-s}$, and s is a natural number;

implementing the filter element with a time delay element providing an output signal; and

shifting the output signal of the time delay element to the right by s bit positions and each time the output signal is shifted to the right by s bit positions, subtracting the

output signal of the time delay element from the input signal of the time delay element.

Claim 27 (original): The method according to claim 21, which further comprises:

using analog processing stages to perform the steps of obtaining a resultant signal, obtaining an output signal, converting the output signal, and generating the feedback signal.

Claim 28 (original): The method according to claim 27, which further comprises:

converting the output signal, obtained by adding the feedback signal to the resultant signal of the filter block, into a digital signal including n bits.

Claim 29 (original): The method according to claim 27, which further comprises:

converting the digital signal back into an analog signal;

providing the output signal, being obtained by the adding, as an analog output signal; and

producing the error signal as an analog error signal obtained from the analog output signal and the analog signal converted from the digital signal.

Claim 30 (new) The method of claim 21, including the further step of outputting the output signal.

Claim 31 (new) The method of claim 26, including the further step of outputting the output signal.